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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: **LaPointe et al.**  
Serial No.: 10/043,356  
Filed: January 11, 2002  
Confirmation No.: 7695

For: **METHOD FOR SELECTING  
MEDICAL AND BIOCHEMICAL  
DIAGNOSTIC TESTS USING  
NEURAL NETWORK RELATED  
APPLICATIONS**

Art Unit: 2122  
Examiner: Unassigned

I hereby certify that this paper and the attached  
papers are being deposited with the United States  
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*Maritza O'Neill*  
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**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Commissioner for Patents  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment for filing in connection  
with the above-identified application.

- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee, including any  
submitted herewith if the attached check(s) is in the wrong amount or otherwise  
improper or missing, that may be due in connection with this and the attached  
papers, or with this application during its entire pendency to or to credit any  
overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1213. A duplicate of this sheet is  
enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP

By: *Stephanie Seidman*  
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Maritza O'Neill

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-captioned patent application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows (a marked-up copy of the amended specification is attached to this Amendment):

**Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 3-23, with the following paragraph:**

This application is a continuation of allowed U.S. application Serial No. 08/912,133, filed August 14, 1997, to Jerome Lapointe and Duane DeSieno entitled "METHOD FOR SELECTING MEDICAL AND BIOCHEMICAL DIAGNOSTIC TESTS USING NEURAL NETWORK-RELATED APPLICATIONS." This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Serial 08/798,306, filed February 7, 1997 entitled "METHOD FOR SELECTING MEDICAL AND BIOCHEMICAL DIAGNOSTIC TESTS USING NEURAL NETWORK-RELATED APPLICATIONS" to Jerome Lapointe and Duane DeSieno, now abandoned. This application is also a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Serial 08/599,275, filed February 9, 1996, to Jerome Lapointe and Duane DeSieno, entitled

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